Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claim 1 (canceled).

2. (currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 14, wherein the re-transmission of said ~~received~~ requested data ~~to said other users~~ file from said second terminal is carried out during download time.

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 14, wherein the re-transmission of said ~~received~~ requested data ~~to said other users~~ file from said second terminal is carried out after downloading is completed.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 14, comprising:

a) receiving said requested data file by said first user terminal;

b) storing said received data file on said ~~user's computer system~~ first user terminal; and

c) re-transmitting said data file from the ~~user's location~~ first user terminal to ~~said~~ other ~~users~~ user terminals through said upstream channel bandwidth in response to a request or according to pre-defined operation instructions.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 14, comprising:

a) receiving said requested data file on said ~~user's computer system~~ first user terminal;

b) causing said received data file to be re-transmitted through said upstream channel bandwidth from said first user terminal to a first group of one or more other ~~users~~ user terminals;

c) causing said received data file to be re-transmitted through said upstream channel bandwidth from said first group of ~~users~~ user terminals to a further group of one or more other ~~users~~ user terminals; and

d) repeating step (c) for all said ~~users~~ user terminals requesting the same said data file.

6. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said data file is transmitted to said first user terminal from a plurality of other user terminals.

7. (currently amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein the transmission of said data file from [[a]] the first user terminal to one or more ~~other user(s)~~ user terminals is carried out with delay.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 14, comprising:

a) receiving said requested data file on said ~~user's computer system~~ first user terminal;

b) re-transmitting said received data file through said upstream channel bandwidth to a dedicated server for storage; and

c) retrieving said stored data file from said dedicated server for other purposes.

Claim 9 (canceled).

10. (currently amended) A system according to claim [[9]] 15, wherein the coordination center comprises storage means and software/hardware component for storing information related to the data file passed through the network and for ~~data~~ retrieval of the stored information.

11. (currently amended) A system according to claim [[9]] 15, wherein the ~~users~~ user terminals are provided with software/hardware components, suitable to re-transmit the data files received ~~in said user's computer~~ by the user terminals to the other ~~users~~ user terminals on the network according to instruction from the coordination center or according to pre-defined operation instructions.

12. (currently amended) A system according to claim [[9]] 15, wherein the ~~users~~ user terminals are provided with software/hardware components suitable to send information to the coordination center representative of the upstream bandwidth available, and of the contents stored in the ~~memory~~ storage means ~~associated with~~ of the ~~user's computer~~ user terminals, that are available for retransmission.

Claim 13 (canceled).

14. (new) A method for efficiently exploiting an upstream channel bandwidth of full-duplex connection between user terminal and data network, said method comprising:

providing a coordination center to monitor data files downloaded by user terminals over said data network and maintain a register of the locations and file identifier of each of the downloaded data files amongst said user terminals;

receiving by the coordination center from a first user

terminal a request for a data file;

determining by the coordination center whether a location of the requested data file is registered in the register, and if registered, determining a second user terminal corresponding to the registered location of the requested data file;

sending an instruction from the coordination center to the second user terminal to send the requested data file to the first user terminal through the upstream channel bandwidth of the second user terminal.

15. (new) A system for efficiently exploiting an upstream channel bandwidth of full-duplex connection between user terminal and data network, said system comprising:

a plurality of user terminals connected to said data network via full-duplex connections, each user terminal comprising storage means for storing data files downloaded to the user terminal;

a coordination center coupled to said data network and configured to monitor data files downloaded by the user terminals over said data network and maintain a register of the locations and file identifier of each of the downloaded data files amongst said user terminals,

wherein when the coordination center receives from a first user terminal a request for a data file, the coordination center (i) determines whether a location of the requested data file is registered in the register, and (ii) if registered, determines a second user terminal corresponding to the registered location of the requested data file, and sends an instruction to the second user terminal to send the requested data file to the first user terminal through the upstream channel bandwidth of the second user terminal.